ER 5-4795

21 April 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting General Counsel

SUBJECT : [   ]   25X1A

1. This case has been in your Office before, but only for
consideration of the immediate problem at that time. We now have
a recommendation for write-off on the ground that security pre-
vents reference to the General Accounting Office. I do not
believe that the record is clear yet that we have exercised
every effort to make collection and that further efforts would
be futile. I refer particularly to the letter of the senior
[   ] of November 20, 1953 (Tab K), in which, after making
various arguments, he states that "As I said in a previous
letter if you could show where Ralph rightfully owed this
money I would urge him to try to pay it . . . ." No answer
has been made to this letter, and a quick review of earlier
correspondence indicates to me that [   ], from his
point of view may have very good arguments that have not
clearly been refuted.

25X1A (left margin)
25X1A (right margin)

2. I suggest you draft what should be a definitive answer
to [   ] laying out the law on travel to first duty stations
and travel with intent to proceed to a foreign duty station, so
that we can demonstrate we have given him a complete position on
behalf of the Government. If we cannot give him a pretty good
case on this, we should review our basic legal position and see
if we are on sound ground. As I see it, either he was recruited
for overseas duty and resigned for personal reasons, in which
case he owes us transportation expenses already paid, or he
was recruited for duty here and key money paid him for trans-
portation was an erroneous payment. The only legitimate out I
can see is that circumstances surrounding his resignation arose
out of misassignment by the Agency and consequently can now be
construed to be for other than personal reasons.

25X1A (left margin)

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/S/

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
Acting Deputy Director
(Administration)

1 Att - File on subject
A-DD/A:LRH:jeb
cc: AD/P
     Comptroller
     DD/A chrono
     DD/A subject : Pers
          Cross-Ref - Legal

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

missing 1 attachment